Appln. No. 10/031,489
Reply to Office Action of July 14, 2004
Docket No. 0512-1001

## REMARKS

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, applicants elect Group II, claims 18-32, with traverse.

The requirement cannot properly be repeated against the claims as now constituted, for the following reasons:

- 1. Claims 33 and 34, both drawn to cheeses, are linking claims, indivisible from each other and from the base claims from which they respectively depend.
- 2. Claim 34 is thus indivisible from claim 18, from which it depends, as by definition the cheese cannot be produced with a coating other than that of claim 18, and conversely, the coating of claim 18 cannot produce other than that of a cheese as in claim 34.
- 3. The Examiner has already recognized the indivisibility of claim 33 from claim 1.

Accordingly, an action on the merits of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

Please charge the fee of \$18 for the extra claim of any type added herewith, to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner hereby is authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any

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overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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RJP/mjr September 14, 2004